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IN THE CLAIMS:

1.-19. (canceled)

20. (previously presented) A lacrosse goalie glove comprising:
a hand portion including a palm portion and a back portion and an inner side and an outer side, said back portion having a protective padding formed thereon;
a cuff portion coupled to said hand portion;
a plurality of finger portions secured to and extending from said hand portion; and
a wrist guard coupled to said hand portion and generally overlying a portion of said cuff portion and said hand portion, said wrist guard having an enlarged area for contacting and blocking a lacrosse ball, said enlarged area defined by an upper edge and a lower edge and a first end and a second end, wherein the distance between said upper edge and said lower edge is greater at said second end than the distance between said upper edge and said lower edge at said first end.

21. (previously presented) The lacrosse goalie glove of claim 20, wherein distance between a lowermost portion of said cuff portion and said lower edge generally increases from said first end to said second end.

22. (previously presented) The lacrosse goalie glove of claim 20 further comprising a flange portion for contacting and blocking said lacrosse ball, said flange portion being coupled to said outer side of said hand portion and to said upper edge of said wrist guard, said flange portion having an outer edge, said outer edge being located further outwardly from the lacrosse goalie glove adjacent said cuff portion than adjacent said plurality of finger portions.

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23. (previously presented) The lacrosse goalie glove of claim 22, wherein an inner edge of said flange portion is coupled to said outer side of said hand portion.

24. (previously presented) The lacrosse goalie glove of claim 23, wherein said inner edge of said flange portion is secured to said outer side of the glove such that it lies in generally the same plane as said back portion.

25. (previously presented) The lacrosse goalie glove of claim 24, wherein said flange portion is generally triangular in shape.

26. (previously presented) The lacrosse goalie glove of claim 22, wherein said flange portion is constructed of a relatively rigid material.

27. (previously presented) The lacrosse goalie glove of claim 20, wherein said wrist guard is constructed of a relatively rigid material.

28. (previously presented) A goalie glove comprising:
a hand portion including a palm portion and a back portion and an inner side and an outer side, said back portion having a protective padding formed thereon;
a cuff portion coupled to said hand portion;
a plurality of finger portions secured to and extending from said hand portion;

a wrist guard coupled to said hand portion and generally overlying a portion of said cuff portion and said hand portion, said wrist guard having an enlarged area for contacting and blocking a lacrosse ball, said enlarged area defined by an upper edge and a lower edge and a first end and a second end, wherein the distance between said upper edge and said lower edge is greater at said second end than the distance between said upper edge and said lower edge at said first end; and

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a flange portion for contacting and blocking said lacrosse ball, said flange portion being coupled to said outer side of said hand portion and to said upper edge of said wrist guard, said flange portion having an outer edge, said outer edge being located further outwardly from the lacrosse goalie glove adjacent said cuff portion than adjacent said plurality of finger portions.

29. (previously presented) The goalie glove of claim 28, wherein an inner edge of said flange portion is coupled to said outer side of said hand portion.

30. (previously presented) The goalie glove of claim 29, wherein said inner edge of said flange portion is secured to said outer side of the glove such that it lies in generally the same plane as said back portion.

31. (previously presented) The goalie glove of claim 28, wherein said flange portion is generally triangular in shape.

32. (previously presented) The goalie glove of claim 28, wherein said flange portion is constructed of a relatively rigid material.

33. (previously presented) The goalie glove of claim 28, wherein said wrist guard is constructed of a relatively rigid material.

34. (currently amended) A sports goalie glove comprising:
a hand portion having a palm portion;
a back portion opposing said hand portion;
at least one finger portion coupled to and extending from said hand portion;
a rigid thumb portion coupled to and extending from said hand portion;

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a wrist guard coupled to said lower portion, wherein said wrist guard has an enlarged area for contacting and blocking a lacrosse ball, said enlarged area defined by an upper edge and a lower edge and a first end and a second end, wherein the distance between said upper edge and said lower edge is greater at said second end than the distance between said upper edge and said lower edge at said first end; and

a flange portion coupled to said hand portion opposite said rigid thumb portion, said flange portion adapted to deflect a force applied thereto, wherein said flange portion does not substantially overlap said back portion.

35. (previously presented) The sports goalie glove of claim 34, wherein said rigid thumb portion comprises a seamless rigid thumb portion.

36. (cancelled)

37. (previously presented) The sports goalie glove of claim 34, wherein the sports goalie glove is a lacrosse goalie glove.

38. (previously presented) A sports goalie glove comprising:
a hand portion having a palm portion;
a back portion opposing said hand portion;
at least one finger portion coupled to and extending from said hand portion;

a rigid thumb portion coupled to and extending from said hand portion;

a wrist guard coupled to said lower portion, wherein said wrist guard has an enlarged area for contacting and blocking a lacrosse ball, said enlarged area defined by an upper edge and a lower edge and a first end and a second end, wherein the distance between said upper edge and said lower edge is greater at said second end than the distance between said upper edge and said lower edge at said first end; and

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a flange portion coupled to said hand portion opposite said rigid thumb portion, said flange portion adapted to deflect a force applied thereto, wherein said flange portion does not substantially overlap said back portion.

39. (previously presented) The sports goalie glove of claim 38, wherein said rigid thumb portion comprises a seamless rigid thumb portion.

40. (previously presented) The sports goalie glove of claim 38, wherein said wrist guard has an enlarged area for contacting and blocking a lacrosse ball, said enlarged area defined by an upper edge and a lower edge and a first end and a second end, wherein the distance between said upper edge and said lower edge is greater at said second end than the distance between said upper edge and said lower edge at said first end.

41. (previously presented) The sports goalie glove of claim 38, wherein the sports goalie glove is a lacrosse goalie glove.

42. (currently amended) A sports goalie glove comprising:
a hand portion having a palm portion and an outer side;
a back portion opposing said hand portion;
a mesh layer for coupling said outer side to said back portion;
a protective padding coupled to said back portion;
at least one finger portion coupled to and extending from said hand portion;

a thumb portion coupled to and extending from said hand portion;

a wrist guard coupled to said lower portion, wherein said wrist guard has an enlarged area for contacting and blocking a lacrosse ball, said enlarged area defined by an upper edge and a lower edge and a first end and a second end, wherein the

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distance between said upper edge and said lower edge is greater at said second end than the distance between said upper edge and said lower edge at said first end; and

a flange portion coupled to said hand portion opposite said rigid thumb portion, said flange portion adapted to deflect a force applied thereto, wherein said flange portion does not substantially overlap said back portion.

43. (cancelled)

44. (previously presented) The sports goalie glove of claim 42, wherein the sports goalie glove is a lacrosse goalie glove.

45. (previously presented) A sports goalie glove comprising:
a hand portion having a palm portion and an outer side;
a back portion opposing said hand portion;
a mesh layer for coupling said outer side to said back portion;
a protective padding coupled to said back portion;
at least one finger portion coupled to and extending from said hand portion;

a thumb portion coupled to and extending from said hand portion;

a wrist guard coupled to said lower portion, wherein said wrist guard has an enlarged area for contacting and blocking a lacrosse ball, said enlarged area defined by an upper edge and a lower edge and a first end and a second end, wherein the distance between said upper edge and said lower edge is greater at said second end than the distance between said upper edge and said lower edge at said first end; and

a flange portion coupled to said hand portion opposite said rigid thumb portion, said flange portion adapted to deflect a force applied thereto, wherein said flange portion does not substantially overlap said back portion.

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46. (previously presented) The sports goalie glove of claim 45,
wherein the sports goalie glove is a lacrosse goalie glove.